

Rhombocladia dichotoma (M'Coy, 1844) [Fenestrata, Bryozoa]: designation of a lectotype

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SYNOPSIS. A lectotype (National Museum of Ireland, NMING:F7058) from the Viséan of Black Lion, near Enniskillen, County Cavan, is designated for the fenestrate bryozoan *Rhombocladia dichotoma* (M'Coy, 1844).

In 1996 I published a paper that described a diverse Lower Carboniferous bryozoan fauna from the Viséan of County Fermanagh, Ireland (Wyse Jackson 1996). In that paper an important error in relation to the designation of a lectotype for the fenestrate bryozoan *Rhombocladia dichotoma* (M'Coy, 1844) inadvertently occurred.

This species was first described as *Vincularia dichotoma* from the Carboniferous of Ireland (M'Coy, 1844). Comparison of M'Coy's fourteen extant syntypes with material from County Fermanagh, resulted in the species being reassigned to the fenestrate genus *Rhombocladia* Rogers, 1900 (Wyse Jackson 1996: 144), a genus previously reported only from the United States, Russia, the Carnic Alps, and Western Australia.

As M'Coy failed to indicate which specimen was the holotype of the species, a lectotype for *Rhombocladia dichotoma* (M'Coy, 1844) was designated from his syntype suite (Wyse Jackson 1996: 144). In doing so the other specimens automatically became paralectotypes. The specimen designated lectotype was NMING:F7058 from the Asbian of Black Lion, Co. Cavan, Ireland (Griffith Collection, National Museum of Ireland [NMING]). This specimen was not illustrated by me. The specimen (NMING:F6030) illustrated in the paper (Wyse Jackson, 1996: fig. 57) (also a syntype from the Griffith Collection) was correctly referred to in the text as being a paralectotype.

However, a serious problem with the lectotype designation has been brought to my notice. In the caption to fig. 57 I mistakenly referred to the illustrated specimen (NMING:F6030) as being the 'lectotype' rather than being a 'paralectotype'. I have been advised that in doing so it appears that two specimens were 'designated' as lectotype. This invalidates my intended designation of a valid lectotype for the species. It is the purpose of this note to rectify this mistake, to designate a valid lectotype for *Rhombocladia dichotoma* (M'Coy, 1844), to illustrate it, and to list the valid paralectotypes.

Order **FENESTRATA** Elias & Condra, 1957

Suborder **PHYLLOPORININA** Lavrentjeva, 1979

Family **CHAINODICTYONIDAE** Nickles and Bassler, 1900

Genus **RHOMBOCLADIA** Rogers, 1900

TYPE SPECIES. *Rhombocladia delicatula* Rogers, 1900, by original designation; from the Upper Carboniferous of Kansas, U.S.A.

Rhombocladia dichotoma (M'Coy, 1844)

Fig. 1

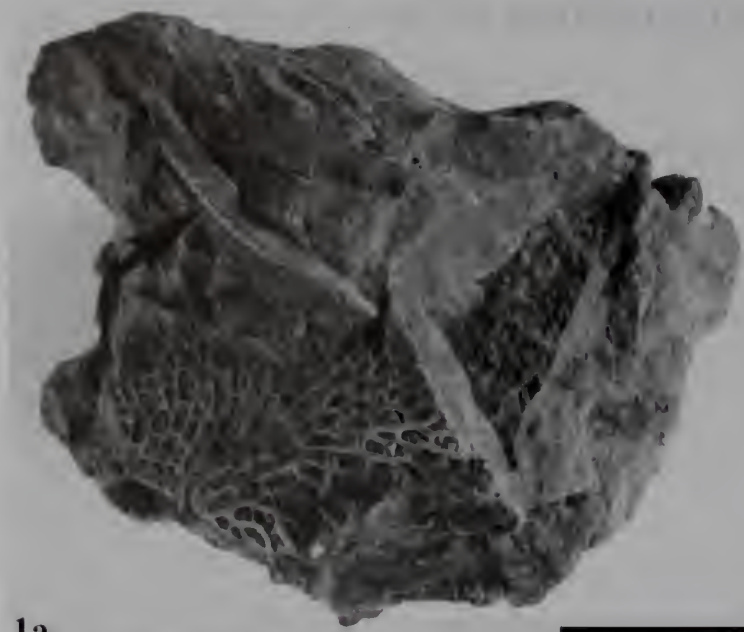
LECTOTYPE. Herein designated: NMING:F7058; Black Lion, near Enniskillen, County Cavan (Viséan, Asbian); Griffith Collection.

PARALECTOTYPES. NMING:F6030; no locality given (?Viséan); Griffith Collection; figured M'Coy 1844: pl. 27, fig. 15 and Wyse Jackson 1996: fig. 57. NMING:F7056–F7057, F7059–F7060; Black Lion, near Enniskillen, County Cavan (Viséan, Asbian); Griffith Collection. NMING:F7061; Millicent, Clane, County Kildare (Viséan, Chadian); Griffith Collection. NMING:F7486–F7489; Kildare, County Kildare (Viséan); Griffith Collection. Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge, SMC:E5188; Howth, County Dublin (Courseyan/Chadian, Dinantian); Griffith Collection. SMC:E5189/a–b; Killymeal, Dungannon, County Tyrone (Viséan, Brigantian); Griffith Collection. SMC:E5190; Kildare, County Kildare (Viséan); Griffith Collection.

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REFERENCES

- M'Coy, F. 1844. *A Synopsis of the Characters of the Carboniferous Limestone Fossils of Ireland*. 207 pp. Dublin University Press, Dublin.
- Wyse Jackson, P.N. 1996. Bryozoa from the Lower Carboniferous of County Fermanagh, Ireland. *Bulletin of the Natural History Museum, Geology Series*, 52 (2): 119–171.



1a



1b

Fig. 1 *Rhombocladia dichotoma* (M'Coy, 1844). NMING:F7058 (lectotype): Black Lion, near Enniskillen, County Cavan (Viséan, Asbian); Griffith Collection. 1a, general view of lectotype (arrowed), $\times 2$. Scale bar = 10 mm. 1b, detail of 1a, showing reverse surface with semi-circular growth lines, $\times 5$. Scale bar = 4 mm.